

In re Patent Application of:
FRISCO ET AL.
Serial No. 10/716,987
Filed: November 19, 2003
Confirmation No. 7576

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system comprising:
a satellite television (TV) receiver;
at least one passenger video display connected to said satellite TV receiver; and
a processor connected to said satellite TV receiver for determining a component malfunction condition and for generating responsive thereto a substitute image on said at least one passenger video display rather than permit display of an undesired image which would otherwise be produced, the component malfunction being independent of a strength of a signal received at said satellite TV receiver.

2. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said satellite TV receiver comprises a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) receiver.

Claims 3 and 4 (Cancelled).

5. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein the undesired image is a degraded program image.

6. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein the undesired image is default text message image.

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7. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 further comprising a storage device connected to said processor for storing the substitute image.

8. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of individual video channels; and wherein said processor determines the undesired condition for each of the individual video channels.

9. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of video channels; and wherein said processor determines the undesired condition for the plurality of video channels.

10. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one passenger video display comprises a plurality of passenger seatback video displays.

11. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said at least one passenger video display comprises a plurality of passenger video displays, and further comprising:

a plurality of signal distribution devices; and

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a cable network connecting said satellite TV receiver to said signal distribution devices, and connecting said signal distribution devices to said passenger video displays.

12. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein the aircraft is a narrow-body aircraft having a single passenger aisle.

13. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system comprising:

a satellite television (TV) receiver;

a plurality of passenger video displays connected to said satellite TV receiver; and

a processor connected to said satellite TV receiver for determining a weak received signal strength condition and a component malfunction condition for generating responsive thereto a substitute image on said passenger video displays prior to display of an undesired image which would otherwise be produced, the component malfunction being independent of a strength of a signal received at said satellite TV receiver.

14. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein said satellite TV receiver comprises a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) receiver.

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15. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein the undesired image is a degraded program image.

16. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein the undesired image is default text image.

17. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 further comprising a storage device connected to said processor for storing the substitute image.

18. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein said satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of individual video channels; and wherein said processor determines the undesired condition for each of the individual video channels.

19. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein said satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of video channels; and wherein said processor determines the undesired condition for the plurality of video channels.

20. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 further comprising:
a plurality of signal distribution devices; and

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a cable network connecting said satellite TV receiver to said signal distribution devices, and connecting said signal distribution devices to said passenger video displays.

21. (original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein the aircraft is a narrow-body aircraft having a single passenger aisle.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an aircraft in-flight entertainment system comprising a satellite television (TV) receiver, and at least one passenger video display connected to the satellite television receiver, the method comprising:

operating a processor connected to the satellite TV receiver for determining a weak received signal strength condition and a component malfunction condition, the component malfunction being independent of a strength of a signal received at the satellite TV receiver; and

generating a substitute image on the at least one passenger video display rather than permit display of an undesired image which would otherwise be produced.

23. (original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the satellite TV receiver comprises a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) receiver.

Claims 24 and 25 (Cancelled).

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26. (original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the undesired image is a degraded program image.

27. (original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the undesired image is default text message image.

28. (original) A method according to Claim 22 further comprising storing the substitute image.

29. (original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of individual video channels; and wherein determining comprises determining the undesired condition for each of the individual video channels.

30. (original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of video channels; and wherein determining comprises determining the undesired condition for the plurality of video channels.

31. (original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the aircraft is a narrow-body aircraft having a single passenger aisle.